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STATINTL



Bay of Bengal and Tonkin Gulf

By Jack Anderson

The secret White House

deep involvement in the Viet miles) southwest of Ceylon." nam war. The American public was told that North Vietnamese torpedo boats had Authorization was flashed staged an unprovoked attack back the same day "in the tually provoked.

The risk of a similar naval flights are authorized." incident in the Bay of Bengal caused grave apprehensions as a U.S. task force steamed

lon on 7 December."

Urgent huddles in the White towards the border. most powerful ship. The pri-involvement in East Pakistan." Russia's Ambassador to about peace on earth and mary purpose was to make a From Katmandu in the India Nikolai M. Pegov, how good will toward men.

"show of force" and to divert Himalayas, meanwhile, came ever, promised on Dec. 13 that Bell-McClure Syndicat

Papers reveal some ominous into position, Admiral John American attache, what he into position, Admiral John American attache, what he knew about Chinese troop wene."

McCain, our Pacific commovements and U.S. fleet the feesibility of movements. As the task force moved about "the feasibility of . . . The Gulf of Tonkin incident task group located approxion Aug. 4, 1964, led to our mately 180 NM (nautical "called upon PRC military atble source."

Air Surveillance

upon a U.S. destroyer, ale event Task Force 74 is directed many missiles, etc." though later evidence indi- to transmit the Strait of Malaccated that the attack was ac- ca. At that time, appropriate

As the American warships PRC might intervene."

tanker have begun to move message reported tersely. "Ac- of alert posture." northeastward into the Bay of cording to a reliable clandes-Bengal. The units entered the tine source, (Pakistan's) Presi-Indian Ocean from the Ma-dent Yahya Khan claimed ...

carrier Enterprise, the Navy's come more critical of India's be in the Ladakh area."

asked Col. Melvin Holst, the Chinese and "will not allow American attache, what he the Seventh Fleet to inter-

tache Chao Kuang Chih in "Pegov stated that Pakistan Katmandu advising Chao that is trying to draw both the

Holst concluded, the dis-will intervene. patch added, that "both the "According

toward a Soviet task force at the height of the Indian-Pakistani fighting.

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The continued passing of the Pakistani forces. In the light of the Indian border since 8 December. Ocean and that the Soviet the PRC (Peoples Republic of the PRC (Peoples Republic of the PRC (Peoples Republic of that "three Soviet naval ships."

The continued passing of Union will not allow the Seventhat "three Soviet naval ships."

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House led to a decision on Dec. 10 to assemble in Malacca Strait a U.S. task force, spearheaded by the aircraft ganda statements have best that the Chinese action might spearheaded by the aircraft ganda statements have best that the Chinese action might edge of the brink just before a recent Petropoise the Navy's come more critical of India's be in the Lodgeth even."

Indian planes and ships from word that both the Soviet and the Soviets "would open a di-Pakistan. Indian military attaches had versionary action" against the

Here are the highlights of this ominous Soviet pledge, "U.S.S.R. Attache Loginov," which the CIA claimed to

PRC should not get too serious United States and China into about intervention, because the present conflict. The So-U.S.S.R. would react, had viet Union, however, does not believe that either country

"According to Pegov, the that time, appropriate u.S.S.R. and India Embassies movement of the U.S. Seventh have a growing concern that Fleet is an effort by the Unit-RC might intervene." ed States to bully India, to Simultaneously, the Central discourage it from striking caused grave apprenensions headed into the Bay of Bengal, Intelligence Agency rushed against West Pakistan, and at inside the State Department even more ominous reports out a top secret report that the same time to boost the "the Chinese have been pass-morale of the Pakistani forces.

Pegov, the Soviet Union would open a diversionary action in Soviet Threat
And from New Delhi, the mented that after Dacca is liblacca Strait on 3 December and today that the Chinese Ambas- CIA reported: "According to a erated and the Bangladesh were located approximately sador in Islamabad had as-reliable clandestine source, government is installed, both 500 nautical miles east of Cey-sured him that within 72 hours Prime Minister Gandhi told a the United States and China the Chinese Army will move leader of her Congress Party will be unable to act and will that she had some indications change their current attitude

Bell-McClure Syndicate